Providence, Sept. 20, 1870.

My dear Wendell:

Thanks for your prompt reply to my letter, for the affectionate invitation contained in it to be awhile with you at the Park instead of returning to Rockledge, and for the powders obtained from Dr. Dunham with reference to my sleeplessness.

I did not send you a telegram today, as you desired, as I could not think of leaving Dr. Dow so abruptly; and as I shall deem it necessary, for various reasons, to return home before going to Orange, in case I conclude to do so. My plan now is, if I derive no perceptible benefit from further treatment here, to leave for home on Saturday, and perhaps on Monday or Tuesday go to New York, and put myself under Dr. Dunham's treatment; for I think he will be able to help me, if anybody can.

Dr. Dow takes more than a professional interest in my case; and with his long experience in the use of electricity may be pretty safely trusted in that direction. Yet what may be highly efficacious in one case, may have no good effect, but rather an injurious one, in another; and I must confess that, after ten days' steady treatment with the battery and the Turkish baths, I not only get no relief, but am worse "stirred up" than ever. Perhaps all this is in the nature of a water cure crisis, and therefore not a bad sign; but, pro tempore, it is anything but encouraging to one who is in bodily torment, day and night. How can this be satisfactorily determined is the question. Dr. Dow thinks it inevitable but hopeful, else he would advise me to try some other method of cure. My heat and itching are considerably allayed while I am receiving electricity through his manipulations; but soon afterward they return more violently than ever. That may

or may not be working out good results: who can tell? So, the effect of a Turkish bath is for a short time agreeable and alleviative; but it conflagrates me all the more in the sequel. My brain is hot and muddled, and I could almost submit with resignation to being scalped by an Indian. Last night was particularly full of torment, after a thorough application of the bath. Of course, I felt very dull and greatly exhausted this morning, the eczema raging in full force. After breakfast, (my appetite is excellent, fortunately,) I took a walk, and returned to the house to find your welcome letter. I immediately took one of the powders so kindly prepared by Dr. Dunham, and laid down on the bed, but not dreaming of any repose; when, mirabile dictum, I soon fell asleep, and enjoyed a nap of nearly three hours, forgetful of all my bodily torment! It has given me hope as well as temporary relief. Whether the other powders will operate as

potently remains to be seen; for I am not a good subject for anodynes as usually administered. If they shall prove just the thing, think of how much unrest I have needlessly endured! Think of twenty-three utterly sleepless nights consecutively, with scarcely a drowsy forgetfulness for an hour during the day! I give Dr. Dunham my benediction.

I have never been well since I went to Vermont in February to attend the Woman's Rights Conventions, having brought on a cough with a slow fever. All through the hot summer I was more than miserable, the vitality of my system running very low. Later I took cold, and brought on a congestive fever, resulting in this intolerable eczema.

You may, in all probability, look for me at the Park some time next week. Love to the household and to George.

Your affectionate Father.